

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 60th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

Call to Order: By **CHAIRMAN JIM ELLIOTT**, on April 11, 2007 at 7:00 A.M., in Room 405 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Jim Elliott, Chairman (D)
Sen. Jerry W. Black (R)
Sen. Jeff Essmann (R)
Sen. Kelly Gebhardt (R)
Sen. Kim Gillan (D)
Sen. Dan Harrington (D)
Sen. Christine Kaufmann (D)
Sen. Sam Kitzenberg (D)
Sen. Jim Peterson (R)
Sen. Bob Story Jr. (R)

Members Excused: Sen. Trudi Schmidt (D)

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Lee Heiman, Legislative Branch
Lois O'Connor, Committee Secretary

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 488, 4/6/2007; HB 637, 4/6/2007;
HB 559, 4/6/2007; HB 826, 4/6/2007
Executive Action: HB 822

00:01:17

HEARING ON HB 488

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:02:32 **REP. MIKE JOPEK (D), HD 4**, opened the hearing on **HB 488**, Study of property taxes.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:07:51 Sen. Robert Story, SD 30

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony: None.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:09:45 Sen. Jim Elliott to Sen. Story

00:12:03 Sen. Dan Harrington to Rep. Jopek

00:13:47 Sen. Jim Peterson to Rep. Jopek

00:14:18 Sen. Elliott

Closing by Sponsor:

00:14:27 Rep. Jopek

HEARING ON HB 637

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:14:53 **REP. HARRY KLOCK (R), HD 83**, opened the hearing on **HB 637**, Provide income tax exemption for military service.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:16:27 Roger Hagan, Montana National Guard Associations
(MTNGA)

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony:

00:23:10 Brian Olsen, Montana Department of Revenue

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:23:31 Sen. Kim Gillan to Mr. Hagan, MTNGA

00:29:57 Sen. Essmann to Mr. Olsen, DOR

00:31:01 Sen. Story to Mr. Olsen, DOR

00:31:55 Sen. Elliott to Mr. Olsen, DOR

00:32:28 Sen. Peterson to Mr. Olsen, DOR

00:33:39 Sen. Peterson to Mr. Hagan, MTNGA

00:35:24 Sen. Elliott to Mr. Hagan, MTNGA

00:36:25 Sen. Essmann to Mr. Hagan, MTNGA

00:38:55 Sen. Elliott to Mr. Hagan, MTNGA

Closing by Sponsor:

00:40:06 Rep. Klock

HEARING ON HB 559

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:40:58 **REP. RALPH HEINERT (R), HD 1**, opened the hearing on **HB 559**, Increase retirement income exclusion on state income tax.

Proponents' Testimony: None.

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony:

00:44:23 Brian Olsen, Montana Department of Revenue (DOR)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:44:58 Sen. Kelly Gebhardt to Mr. Olsen, DOR

00:45:27 Sen. Story to Mr. Olsen, DOR

00:48:28 Sen. Essmann to Mr. Olsen, DOR

00:50:16 Sen. Gillan to Rep. Heinert

00:51:25 Sen. Harrington

Closing by Sponsor:

00:54:06 Rep. Heinert

HEARING ON HB 826

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:55:57 **REP. BILL MCCHESENEY (D), HD 40**, opened the hearing on
HB 826, Study protested taxes.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:57:40 Ronda Wiggers, Montana County Treasurers Association
(MCTA)

01:02:06 Willie Duffield, Executive Director, Montana
Association of Oil, Gas, and Coal Producing Counties
(MAOGCPC)

01:02:54 Mary Wittinghill, Montana Taxpayers Association
(MonTax)

01:05:04 Webb Brown, Montana Chamber of Commerce

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony:

01:05:26 Patti Keebler, Officer of the Honorable Governor Brian
Schweitzer (Governor's Office)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:05:59 Sen. Story to Ms. Keebler
01:07:24 Sen. Peterson to Ms. Keebler, Governor's Office
01:08:21 Sen. Essmann to Mr. Duffield, MAOGCPC
01:09:37 Sen. Gebhardt
01:10:02 Sen. Elliott to Ms. Wiggers, MCTA

Closing by Sponsor:

01:17:39 Rep. McChesney

Discussion:

01:19:51 Sen. Gebhardt to Sen. Elliott
01:20:08 Rep. McChesney

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 822

Discussion:

01:20:50 Sen. Story
01:21:21 **Vote:** Because the vote on HB 822 was left open for a period of 24 hours from the April 10, 2007, meeting to acquire SEN. BLACK'S vote, SEN. BLACK voted no. The motion that HB 822 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED failed on a 5-6 vote with SEN. GILLAN, SEN. HARRINGTON, SEN. KAUFMANN, and SEN. KITZENBERG voting aye. SEN. SCHMIDT voted aye by proxy.
01:22:53 **Motion/Vote:** SEN. STORY moved that HB 822 BE TABLED. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. SEN. SCHMIDT was excused.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 8:25 A.M.

SEN. JIM ELLIOTT, Chairman

LOIS O'CONNOR, Secretary

JE/lo

Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT ([tas76aad.pdf](#))